Amendments to the Claims:

1.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) An active naturally occurring lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 from human at least 95% pure relative to other protein contaminants and encoded by a polynucleotide having at least 90% sequence identity with human SEQ ID NO:9 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:9, wherein said lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 is capable of hydrolyzing the sn-2 ester of an oxidatively modified phosphatidylcholine

26. (Previously Presented) The lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 according to claim 25, having a molecular weight of from about 45 kDa to about 50 kDa and comprising at least one sequence selected from the following: SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, and 4.

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) A naturally occurring lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 from human comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by nucleotides 929 to 1018 of SEQ ID NO: 9, which is at least 95% pure relative to other protein contaminants and encoded by a polynucleotide having at least 90% sequence identity with human SEQ ID NO:9 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:9.

29. (Currently Amended) An enzyme lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 comprising ~~the amino acid sequence corresponding to~~ amino acid residues 271 to 441 of SEQ ID NO:14 ~~SEQ ID NO:9~~, which is at least 95% pure relative to other protein contaminants.

30. (Newly Added) An enzyme lipoprotein associated phospholipase A2 comprising amino acid residues encoded by nucleotides 848 to 1361 of SEQ ID NO:9, which is at least 95% pure relative to other protein contaminants.